Harold

To Quin Shea from Harold Weisberg King assassination records 12/3/78

Transcripts of the House Assassinations Committee's public sessions are as unavailable as those of its executive sessions. I therefore attach a copy of a story from the Memphis Commercial-Appeal which has just reached me. I have marked portions that relate to prior appeals of withholdings.

In the first column a broken vertical line is to draw your attention to the false statement that there was no "contact between Ray and any agent of informant of the FBI." Continued withholdings relating to J.C.Jardin, which is the name of an FBI informant, is relavant as I believe other withholdings also are.

At the top of the second column, referring to FBIHQ approval of a scheme to embarrass Dr. King just before he was killed, I have underlined "signed by former Director J. Edgar Hoover." After about two years of unsuccessful effort I obtained a copy about a week ago, apparently when the FBI knew the committee would be using it. My copy is not signed by the Director. Instead it is noted as "Handled 4/3," which is the day before Dr. King was killed. Now I happen to believe that no such story was planted then. I have requested any copy of any record of any use and I have appealed without response. Initially my interest was fairness to the FBI, which had been attacked in xxx a manner I believe is unfair. Now I can see a Cointelpro operation in this, partly accomplished by the long withholdings of what I might xxx have used xx and prevented the Cointelproing.

There is a solid vertical line lower in the column. Because the FBI record there quoted is false, something I do not believe is normal field office practise with FBIHQ, I may not remember correctly in not remembering having received this record. Relevant records I have received establish that the representations I quote are false:"Dr. King first sought residence at xxx Sheraton Peabody and ended up staying at Rivermont..." and "the Lorraine Motel is a quality...motel." Dr. King did not express any desire to the Memphis police and it took him to the Rivermont, its decision. (I happen to believe the wisest possible decision.)

Appeal has become a mere formality. It is not possible to do anything about the FBI's continued misuses of the Act and the Court and of me for ulterior and improper purposes, especially with the Keystone Cops, aka committee.

It is not possible only because there is no will to do anything by those who should be doing something.

Motive can be attributed to the Department which has the unjustified conclusions of its prior re-investigations, meaning self-investigations, to shelter from critical analysis.